
HOUSE BILL 1923

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives O'Brien, Upthegrove and McDermott

Read first time 02/17/2003. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to county and city coordination of comprehensive
2 plan reviews; and amending RCW 36.70A.130.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.130 and 2002 c 320 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1)(a) Each comprehensive land use plan and development regulations
7 shall be subject to continuing review and evaluation by the county or
8 city that adopted them. A county or city shall take legislative action
9 to review and, if needed, revise its comprehensive land use plan and
10 development regulations to ensure the plan and regulations comply with
11 the requirements of this chapter according to the time periods
12 specified in subsection (4) of this section. A county or city not
13 planning under RCW 36.70A.040 shall take action to review and, if
14 needed, revise its policies and development regulations regarding
15 critical areas and natural resource lands adopted according to this
16 chapter to ensure these policies and regulations comply with the
17 requirements of this chapter according to the time periods specified in
18 subsection (4) of this section. Legislative action means the adoption
19 of a resolution or ordinance following notice and a public hearing

1 indicating at a minimum, a finding that a review and evaluation has
2 occurred and identifying the revisions made, or that a revision was not
3 needed and the reasons therefore. The review and evaluation required
4 by this subsection may be combined with the review required by
5 subsection (3) of this section. The review and evaluation required by
6 this subsection shall include, but is not limited to, consideration of
7 critical area ordinances and, if planning under RCW 36.70A.040, an
8 analysis of the population allocated to a city or county from the most
9 recent ten-year population forecast by the office of financial
10 management.

11 (b) Any review or evaluation of, or any amendment of or revision
12 to, the capital facilities plan element or transportation element of a
13 county comprehensive land use plan shall be coordinated with, and
14 consistent with, the capital facilities plan element or transportation
15 element of comprehensive land use plans of the cities located within
16 the county. Any review or evaluation of, or any amendment of or
17 revision to, county development regulations consistent with the
18 provisions of this subsection shall be coordinated with, and consistent
19 with, applicable development regulations of the cities located within
20 the county.

21 (c) Any amendment of or revision to a comprehensive land use plan
22 shall conform to this chapter. Any amendment of or revision to
23 development regulations shall be consistent with and implement the
24 comprehensive plan.

25 (2)(a) Each county and city shall establish and broadly disseminate
26 to the public a public participation program consistent with RCW
27 36.70A.035 and 36.70A.140 that identifies procedures and schedules
28 whereby updates, proposed amendments, or revisions of the comprehensive
29 plan are considered by the governing body of the county or city no more
30 frequently than once every year. "Updates" means to review and revise,
31 if needed, according to subsection (1) of this section, and the time
32 periods specified in subsection (4) of this section. Amendments may be
33 considered more frequently than once per year under the following
34 circumstances:

35 (i) The initial adoption of a subarea plan that does not modify the
36 comprehensive plan policies and designations applicable to the subarea;

37 (ii) The adoption or amendment of a shoreline master program under
38 the procedures set forth in chapter 90.58 RCW; and

1 (iii) The amendment of the capital facilities element of a
2 comprehensive plan that occurs concurrently with the adoption or
3 amendment of a county or city budget.

4 (b) Except as otherwise provided in (a) of this subsection, all
5 proposals shall be considered by the governing body concurrently so the
6 cumulative effect of the various proposals can be ascertained.
7 However, after appropriate public participation a county or city may
8 adopt amendments or revisions to its comprehensive plan that conform
9 with this chapter whenever an emergency exists or to resolve an appeal
10 of a comprehensive plan filed with a growth management hearings board
11 or with the court.

12 (3) Each county that designates urban growth areas under RCW
13 36.70A.110 shall review, at least every ten years, its designated urban
14 growth area or areas, and the densities permitted within both the
15 incorporated and unincorporated portions of each urban growth area. In
16 conjunction with this review by the county, each city located within an
17 urban growth area shall review the densities permitted within its
18 boundaries, and the extent to which the urban growth occurring within
19 the county has located within each city and the unincorporated portions
20 of the urban growth areas. The county comprehensive plan designating
21 urban growth areas, and the densities permitted in the urban growth
22 areas by the comprehensive plans of the county and each city located
23 within the urban growth areas, shall be revised to accommodate the
24 urban growth projected to occur in the county for the succeeding
25 twenty-year period. The review required by this subsection may be
26 combined with the review and evaluation required by RCW 36.70A.215.

27 (4) The department shall establish a schedule for counties and
28 cities to take action to review and, if needed, revise their
29 comprehensive plans and development regulations to ensure the plan and
30 regulations comply with the requirements of this chapter. The schedule
31 established by the department shall provide for the reviews and
32 evaluations to be completed as follows:

33 (a) On or before December 1, 2004, and every seven years
34 thereafter, for Clallam, Clark, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Pierce,
35 Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom counties and the cities within those
36 counties;

37 (b) On or before December 1, 2005, and every seven years

1 thereafter, for Cowlitz, Island, Lewis, Mason, San Juan, Skagit, and
2 Skamania counties and the cities within those counties;

3 (c) On or before December 1, 2006, and every seven years
4 thereafter, for Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Kittitas, Spokane, and
5 Yakima counties and the cities within those counties; and

6 (d) On or before December 1, 2007, and every seven years
7 thereafter, for Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield,
8 Grays Harbor, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pacific, Pend Oreille,
9 Stevens, Wahkiakum, Walla Walla, and Whitman counties and the cities
10 within those counties.

11 (5)(a) Nothing in this section precludes a county or city from
12 conducting the review and evaluation required by this section before
13 the time limits established in subsection (4) of this section.
14 Counties and cities may begin this process early and may be eligible
15 for grants from the department, subject to available funding, if they
16 elect to do so.

17 (b) State agencies are encouraged to provide technical assistance
18 to the counties and cities in the review of critical area ordinances,
19 comprehensive plans, and development regulations.

20 (6) A county or city subject to the time periods in subsection
21 (4)(a) of this section that, pursuant to an ordinance adopted by the
22 county or city establishing a schedule for periodic review of its
23 comprehensive plan and development regulations, has conducted a review
24 and evaluation of its comprehensive plan and development regulations
25 and, on or after January 1, 2001, has taken action in response to that
26 review and evaluation shall be deemed to have conducted the first
27 review required by subsection (4)(a) of this section. Subsequent
28 review and evaluation by the county or city of its comprehensive plan
29 and development regulations shall be conducted in accordance with the
30 time periods established under subsection (4)(a) of this section.

31 (7) The requirements imposed on counties and cities under this
32 section shall be considered "requirements of this chapter" under the
33 terms of RCW 36.70A.040(1). Only those counties and cities in
34 compliance with the schedules in this section shall have the requisite
35 authority to receive grants, loans, pledges, or financial guarantees
36 from those accounts established in RCW 43.155.050 and 70.146.030. Only
37 those counties and cities in compliance with the schedules in this

1 section shall receive preference for grants or loans subject to the
2 provisions of RCW 43.17.250.

--- END ---